

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~

O 060102Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

~~TOP SECRET DINAR~~ 3/O/VHN/R02-64 ST 220

GULF OF TONKIN SIGINT SITUATION REPORT NO. 1 (4-5 AUGUST)

THIS IS THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF GULF OF TONKIN SIGINT SITREPS WHICH WILL CONTINUE AS LONG AS THE SITUATION WARRANTS. OF THE OTHER REPORTS PUBLISHED, THE MOST RECENT INFORMATION IS CONTAINED, 3/O/VHN/R01-64.

FOLLOWING THEIR 4 AUGUST ATTACK ON THE USS MADDOX AND THE USS TURNER JOY AND PRIOR TO THE U.S. AIR STRIKE AGAINST NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL INSTALLATIONS, IT WAS APPARENT IN NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS THAT PLANS WERE BEING MADE TO REGROUP FOR ANOTHER POSSIBLE ATTACK AGAINST THE TWO U.S. DESTROYERS ON THE NIGHT OF 5 AUGUST. MESSAGES WERE OBSERVED BEING PASSED FROM BOAT T142 INFORMING HAIPHONG THAT TWO UNITS OF TORPEDO FLOTILLA 135 AS WELL AS BOAT T146 WERE READY FOR ACTION. PORT WALLUT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED BY T142 THAT T146 WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO RENDEZVOUS WITH THE OTHER TWO BOATS AND REQUESTED ANOTHER REPLACEMENT. THESE PLANS WERE BROUGHT TO AN ABRUPT END WITH THE U.S. AIRCRAFT HIT QUANG KHE AND VINH. A MESSAGE WAS PASSED AT 0626Z, 5 AUGUST, FROM HAIPHONG TO THE BOATS, INFORMING THEM OF THE STRIKE AGAINST VINH AND ORDERING THEM TO CAMOUFLAGE AND DISPERSE. TAB 54

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SIGINT REFLECTIONS OF THE ACTUAL AIR STRIKES AND THE SUBSEQUENT DAMAGE HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY LIMITED IN THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS HAVE BEEN SPARSE SINCE THE AIR STRIKES BEGAN. LIMITED TRACKINGS OF THE APPROACHING U.S. AIRCRAFT WERE REFLECTED BY NORTH VIETNAMESE RADAR FACILITIES. AT 0823Z ON 5 AUGUST PORT WALLUT REPORTED TO THE NAVAL DIRECTORATE IN HAIPHONG THAT THREE JETS WERE OVERHEAD, THAT THEY WERE STRAFING THE SHIPS, AND ONE SHIP WAS DISABLED. INFORMATION RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES INDICATES THAT THIS PORT WAS NOT UNDER ATTACK AT ANY TIME; THEREFORE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THIS MESSAGE WAS REFERRING TO ANOTHER PORT. OTHER SIGINT REFLECTIONS WERE NOTED IN A MESSAGE OF 5 AUGUST AT 0626Z WHICH STATED THAT VINH HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY ENEMY AIRCRAFT AND THAT ENEMY AIRCRAFT HAD ALSO DESTROYED NORTH VIETNAMESE SHIPS AT HON ME. IN TOTAL, THE SINKING OF FOUR SHIPS AND THE DAMAGING OF FOUR OTHERS ARE ALL THAT CAN BE ESTABLISHED FROM NORTH VIETNAMESE NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS DURING THE PERIOD 2-5 AUGUST.

NORTH VIETNAMESE MESSAGES DURING THIS PERIOD DO NOT CLARIFY THE NUMBER AND TYPE OF SHIPS INVOLVED. REFERENCE IS USUALLY MADE TO THE FLOTILLA COVER NUMBER OR TO SHIPS IN GENERAL. THUS RECLUDING A CLEAR SIGINT PICTURE OF THE SPECIFIC SHIPS WHICH HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN RECENT ACTIVITIES.

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CHANGE PARA, 4TH SENTENCE TO READ: "OTHER SIGINT REFLECTIONS WERE
NOTED IN A MESSAGE OF 5 AUGUST AT 0626Z WHICH STATED THAT VINH HAD
BEEN BOMBARDED REPEAT BOMBARDED..."

THIS IS AN ELECTRICAL CHANGE ONLY.

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